MARVEL COMICS
335 DEC
DAREDEVIL
MAN WITHOUT FEAR!
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY
DIRECT EDITION
$1.50 US
HUMANITY'S FATHOM
PART THREE OF FIVE

FATHOMS OF HUMANITY

Part Three of Five

NOT IN MY BACKYARD

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TELL ME, DAREDEVIL, DID YOUR PREDECESSOR EVER TELL YOU ABOUT ME? ABOUT WHAT HE DID TO MY FACE?

MOST CALL ME BUSHWHACKER, 'CAUSE IT'S WHAT I DO TO SINNERS LIKE YOU.

FIRST I'M GOING TO SEND YOU TO YOUR MAKER, FOLLOWED BY YOUR LITTLE TUNNEL FRIENDS.

THE MAN WITH THE MONEY CAN'T AFFORD TO HAVE YOU MEDDLING IN HIS AFFAIRS ANY LONGER.

SO HE HIRED ME TO TAKE CARE OF IT.

THE BLIND HERO DEPENDS ON HIS REMAINING SENSES AS WELL AS AN INTERNAL RADAR TO NAVIGATE HIS SURROUNDINGS.

BUT TONIGHT'S TORRENTIAL RAIN RENDERS HIS RADAR NEARLY USELESS.

"If we see light at the end of a tunnel, it's the light of an oncoming train."

–Robert Lowell

DAREDEVIL™ Vol. 1, No. 335, December, 1994. (ISSN #0279-8271) Published by MARVEL COMICS, Terry Stewart, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. **SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** Published monthly. Copyright © 1994 Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price $1.50 per copy in the U.S. and $2.05 in Canada. Subscription rate for 12 issues: U.S. $18.00, Canadian subscribers must add $10.00 for postage and GST. GST #R127032852. Foreign: $30.00. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or martiage removed, nor in a mutilated condition. DAREDEVIL (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC. **POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO DAREDEVIL, c/o MARVEL DIRECT MARKETING INC./SUBSCRIPTION DEPT. P.O. BOX 1979 DANBURY, CT. 06813-1979. TELEPHONE # (203) 743-5331. Printed in the USA.**

He is grace in motion. Hyperacute hearing sensing bullet trajectories. Well used muscles propelling him quicker than his attacker can comprehend.
Again and again, he vaults effortlessly between air vents and electrical boxes.
His radar locks onto near objects.
He relies on the differing pitch of the rain pelting further objects to judge their positions.
It happens faster than bushwhacker can imagine.
TCHINK
BRAKKA BRAK
SHUNK
CHANK
SHUNK
BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAK

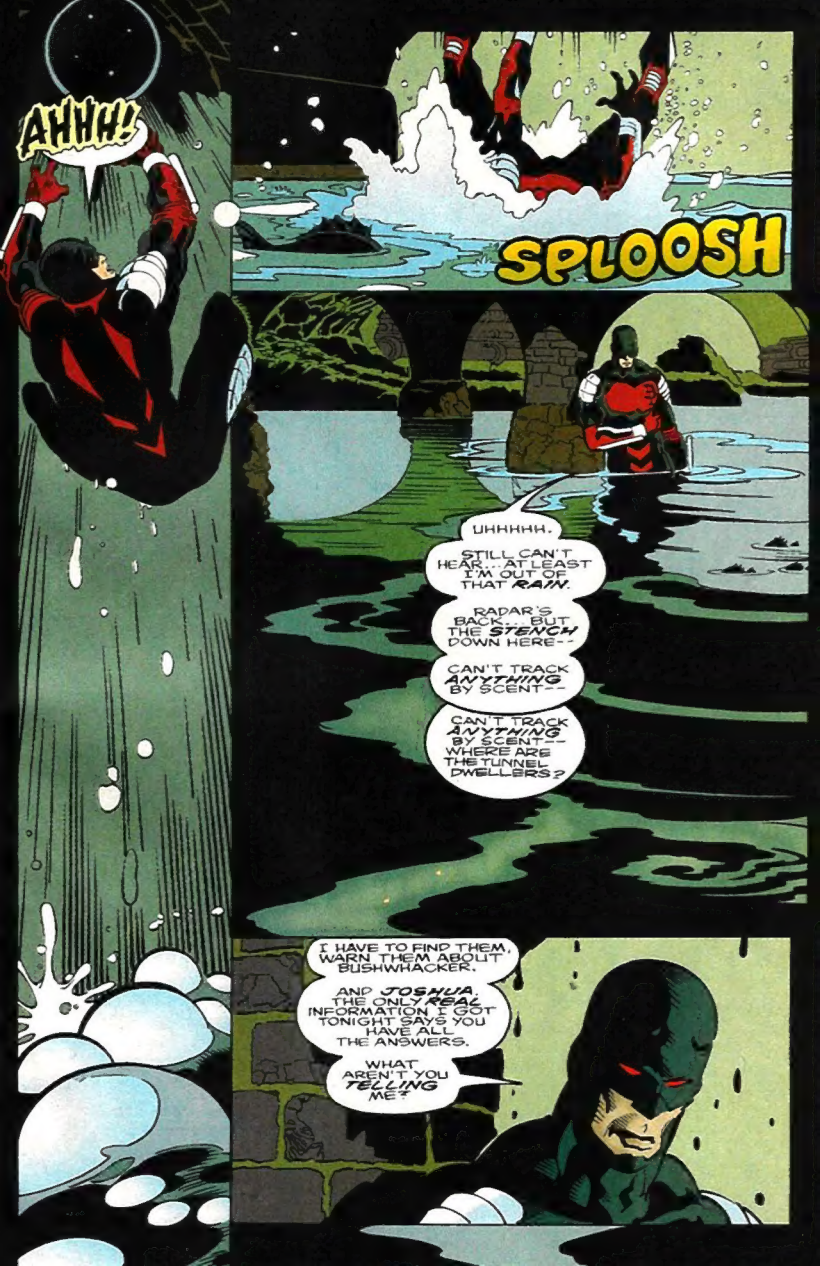
I'M STRONGER, DEVIL. I GOT THE LORD ON MY SIDE.
RAKKABRAKKABRAKKABRAKK
ARGGHHH!
BRAKKA BRAKKA
THE SOUND OF AUTOMATIC FIRING AT CLOSE RANGE ALL BUT DEAFENS THE BLIND MAN, ROBBING HIM OF ONE OF HIS REMAINING SENSES.
CAN'T HEAR?
LAST RITES WON'T MATTER THEN.
BRAKKA BRAKKA
YAHHHH!
THE NEW COSTUME IS MADE FROM MATERIALS BULLETS CANNOT PENETRATE AND REINFORCED WHERE IT COUNTS, WITH A HARD, SHELL-LIKE ARMOR.
THAT'S CHEATING. THE REAL DEVIL DIDN'T NEED PROTECTION.
IT SAVES HIS LIFE.
BUT NOT HIS RIBS.

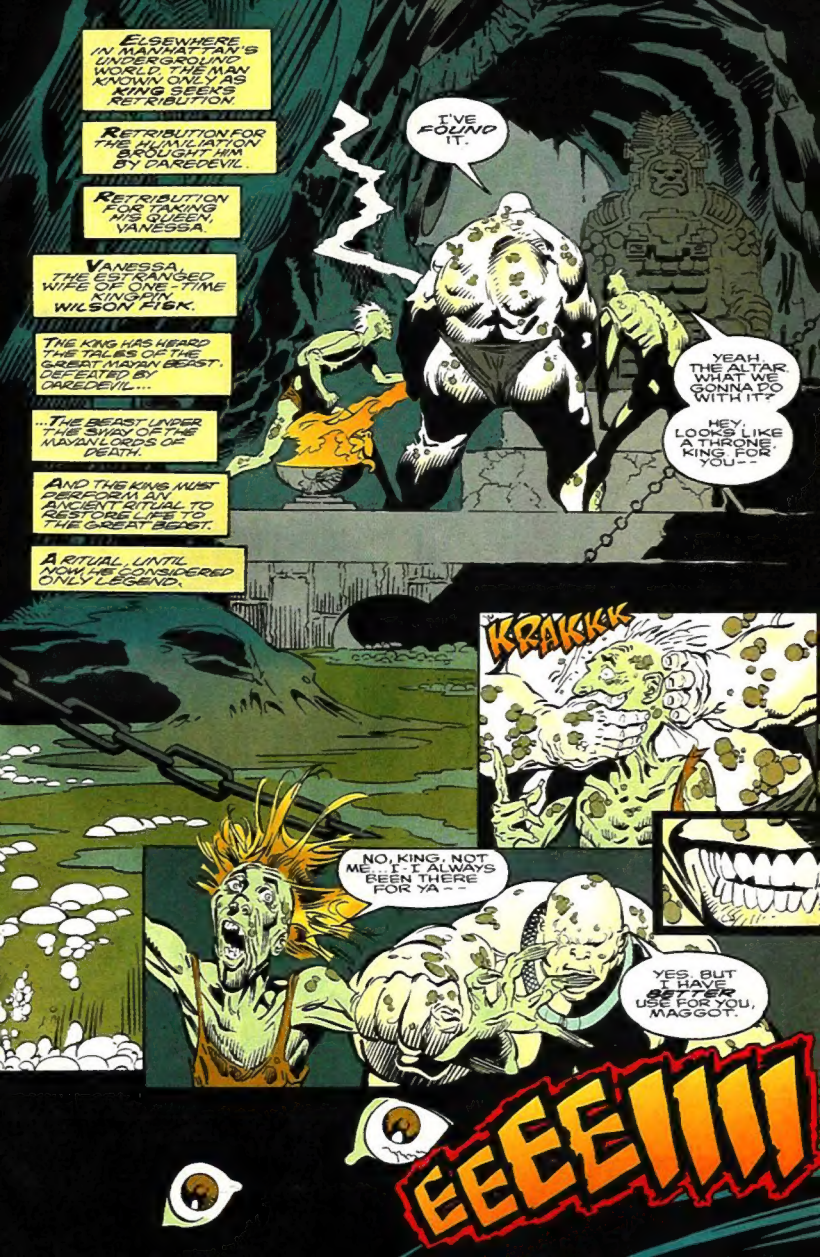
I... DON'T CARE...
THE REAL DEVIL NEVER TOOK A SINGLE BULLET.
...WHAT...
...THE OTHER GUY DID.
WHOKK
NICE TRY, DEVIL.
NOW YOU'RE TRAPPED.
BRAKKA BRAKKA
UHHNG!
PWEOO PWEOO
PWEOO

PWANG PWANG PWANG
HUNNGGH!
--CAN'T HEAR WELL, RADAR'S USELESS, SCENT OF GUNPOWDER'S ALL OVER--
--RIBS'RE SCREAMING--
WHERE ARE YOU...
KABOOM!
I SEE YOU, DEVIL.
PWEEO PWEEO PWEEO
PWANG PWANG

...LUCK'S ALL THAT SAVED ME THAT TIME...
...WARMTH... LIGHT ON MY FACE...
GAME'S OVER, DEVIL. YOU SHOULD HAVE STAYED AWAY FROM THOSE TUNNEL PEOPLE.
VRNNNN
CHKK
SHHHNK
WHAT ARE--
--YOU--
--TRYING TO--

BLANG
WHURGGHHH!
HONK
HONK
WHOOAAA!
SKREEEEE
NO!
WHERE IS HE?
HONK
HONK
SLICK. DEVIL. REAL SLICK.
BUT I KNOW WHERE THAT LEADS...


AHHH!
SPLOOSH
UHHHHH.
STILL CAN'T HEAR... AT LEAST I'M OUT OF THAT RAIN.
RADAR'S BACK... BUT THE STENCH DOWN HERE--
CAN'T TRACK ANYTHING BY SCENT--
CAN'T TRACK ANYTHING BY SCENT-- WHERE ARE THE TUNNEL DWELLERS?
I HAVE TO FIND THEM, WARN THEM ABOUT BUSHWHACKER.
AND JOSHUA, THE ONLY REAL INFORMATION I GOT TONIGHT SAYS YOU HAVE ALL THE ANSWERS.
WHAT AREN'T YOU TELLING ME?

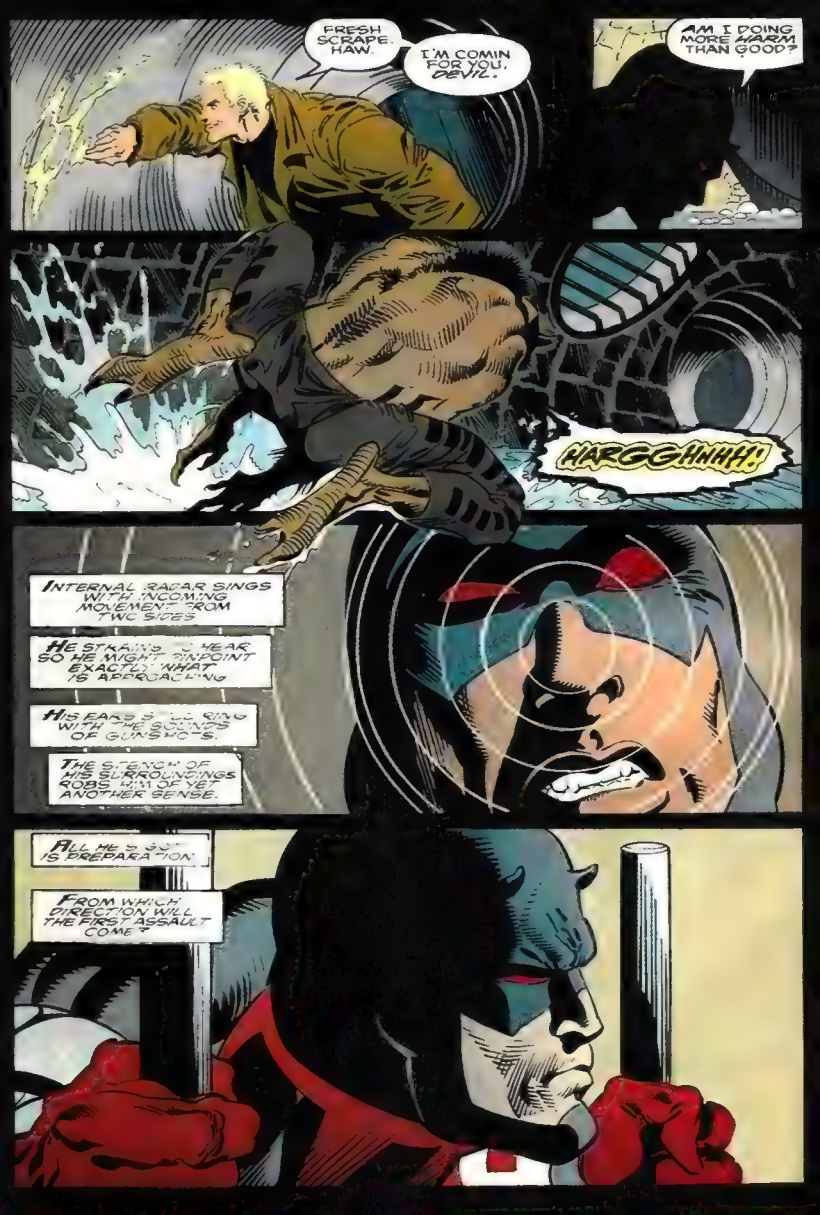

ELSEWHERE IN MANHATTAN'S UNDERGROUND WORLD, THE MAN KNOWN ONLY AS KING SEEKS RETRIBUTION.
RETRIBUTION FOR THE HUMILIATION BROUGHT HIM BY DAREDEVIL.
RETRIBUTION FOR TAKING HIS QUEEN, VANESSA.
VANESSA, THE ESTRANGED WIFE OF ONE-TIME KINGPIN WILSON FISK.
THE KING HAS HEARD THE TALES OF THE GREAT MAYAN BEAST, DEFEATED BY DAREDEVIL...
...THE BEAST UNDER THE SWAY OF THE MAYAN LORDS OF DEATH.
AND THE KING MUST PERFORM AN ANCIENT RITUAL TO RESTORE LIFE TO THE GREAT BEAST.
A RITUAL, UNTIL NOW HE CONSIDERED ONLY LEGEND.
I'VE FOUND IT.
YEAH. THE ALTAR. WHAT WE GONNA DO WITH IT?
HEY, LOOKS LIKE A THRONE, KING. FOR YOU--
KRAKKK
NO, KING, NOT ME... I'VE ALWAYS BEEN THERE FOR YA--
YES, BUT I HAVE NEVER USE FOR YOU, MAGGOT.
EEEEIII

THE LORDS OF DEATH REQUIRE SACRIFICE.
AS LONG AS THE LEGENDS HOLD TRUE.
KRRRKKKLLL
HURRRGHHH!
OH YEAH.
HRAHHGHHGH!
HIDDEN FROM VIEW, AN OUTCAST FROM ANOTHER TIME WATCHES WITH MORBID INTEREST.
NOT AGAIN...

Hurrrrgghhhh...
WELL, I DIDN'T BRING YOU BACK FOR CONVERSATION
I GOT A TREAT FOR YA THAT MAGGOT THAT TOOK YOU DOWN LAST TIME-- DAREDEVIL?
I'M GONNA FEED HIM TO YA
CAN'T SPEAK, HUH? CAT GOT YOUR TONGUE DEVOURER?
NO, I LEFT MY TIME AND CAME HERE TO AVOID THIS CRUD.
I AIN'T NO FREAKIN' HERO
THIS AIN'T MY PROBLEM ANYMORE.
LUTHER MANNING SERVED HIS TIME AND THEN SOME

RAKKARAKKARAKKARAKKARAKKARAKKA
Unngh.
JOSHUA
AND BREATHING IS NOT OPTIONAL.
ARGHHHHHH!
THE PAIN OF HIS SHATTERED RIBS PALE IN COMPARISON TO THE TREMENDOUS STENCH THAT ASSAULTS HIS OLFACTORY SENSES.
HEAT SIX FEET BEHIND HIM
JOSHUA
DIDN'T EVEN HAVE TO SPEAK, DID I, BLIND MAN?
THERE'S A WHOLE LOT SPECIAL ABOUT YOU.
THIS ISN'T YOUR GAME ANYMORE, AND I CAN'T PROTECT YOU
ALL I HAVE IS THE COMMUNITY AND IT COMES FIRST.

AN ASSASSIN KNOWN AS BUSHWHACKER'S BEEN HIRED TO KILL ME, AND ALL OF YOU
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE GOTTEN INVOLVED.
NOW WE'RE ALL IN DANGER.
YOU KNOW RALPHIE AND ED ARE INNOCENT. WHOEVER FRAMED THEM FOR THE BOMBING WANT TO ELIMINATE ANY WHO CAN CLEAR THEM...
YOU CAN PROVE THEIR--
ONCE, I, TOO, WAS A CRUSADER. DAREDEVIL. COST ME THE LIFE I WORKED HARD TO MAKE SOUND FAMILIAR?
I ADMIRE YOU NO MATTER WHICH COSTUME YOU WORE. YOU WERE ALWAYS WILLING TO SACRIFICE IT ALL.
EVEN TO THE UNGRATEFUL.
YOU'VE LOST SO MUCH ALREADY.
WE DIDN'T ASK FOR YOUR HELP. WE DIDN'T WANT IT.
WE STILL DON'T. LEAVE US.
YOU CAN'T WIN THIS FIGHT. AND TRYING PUTS US IN JEOPARDY.


FRESH SCRAPE HAW.
I'M COMIN FOR YOU, DEVIL.
AM I DOING MORE HARM THAN GOOD?
HARGGHHH!
INTERNAL RADAR SINGS WITH INCOMING MOVEMENT FROM TWO SIDES
HE STRAINS TO HEAR SO HE MIGHT PINPOINT EXACTLY WHAT IS APPROACHING
HIS EARS STILL RING WITH THE ECHOES OF GUNSHOTS
THE STENCH OF HIS SURROUNDINGS ROBS HIM OF YET ANOTHER SENSE.
ALL HE'S GOT IS PREPARATION.
FROM WHICH DIRECTION WILL THE FIRST ASSAULT COME?

FOCUS. FEEL THE SPACE.
FEEL THE ATTACK BEFORE IT COMES
HE DOESN'T REQUIRE SIGHT.
HE DOESN'T REQUIRE SOUND.
HE DOESN'T REQUIRE SCENT.
ONLY FOCUS.
BLAM
SPAK
WHURGH!

ABOVE GROUND
CENTRAL PARK
THE NEW DAREDEVIL'S INVOLVEMENT IN FREEING RALPHIE AND ED IS ENDANGERING THE COMMUNITY, FISK.
IRONIC HOW THINGS HAVE CHANGED.
WHEN I PRESIDED OVER THE CITY FROM MY IVORY TOWER, KINGPIN OF ALL I SURVEYED--
--YOU REJECTED MY FRIENDSHIP
NOW THAT WE ARE ON EQUAL FOOTING, DEVOID OF THE POWER MONEY BUYS, YOU SEEK MY AID.
A MAN SHOULD LOOK OUT FOR NUMBER ONE, FIRST, LEST HE IS BETRAYED BY THOSE THOUGHT OF AS FRIENDS
RALPHIE AND ED WORK FOR YOU. I'VE OVERLOOKED IT.
I'M REACHING OUT.
ONE HAND WASHES THE OTHER?
IT WAS YOUR CONCERN FOR OTHERS THAT PUT YOU ON THE STREET, JOSHUA.
CAREFUL THAT IT DOES NOT DO YOU WORSE.
NOW, TELL ME ALL YOU KNOW

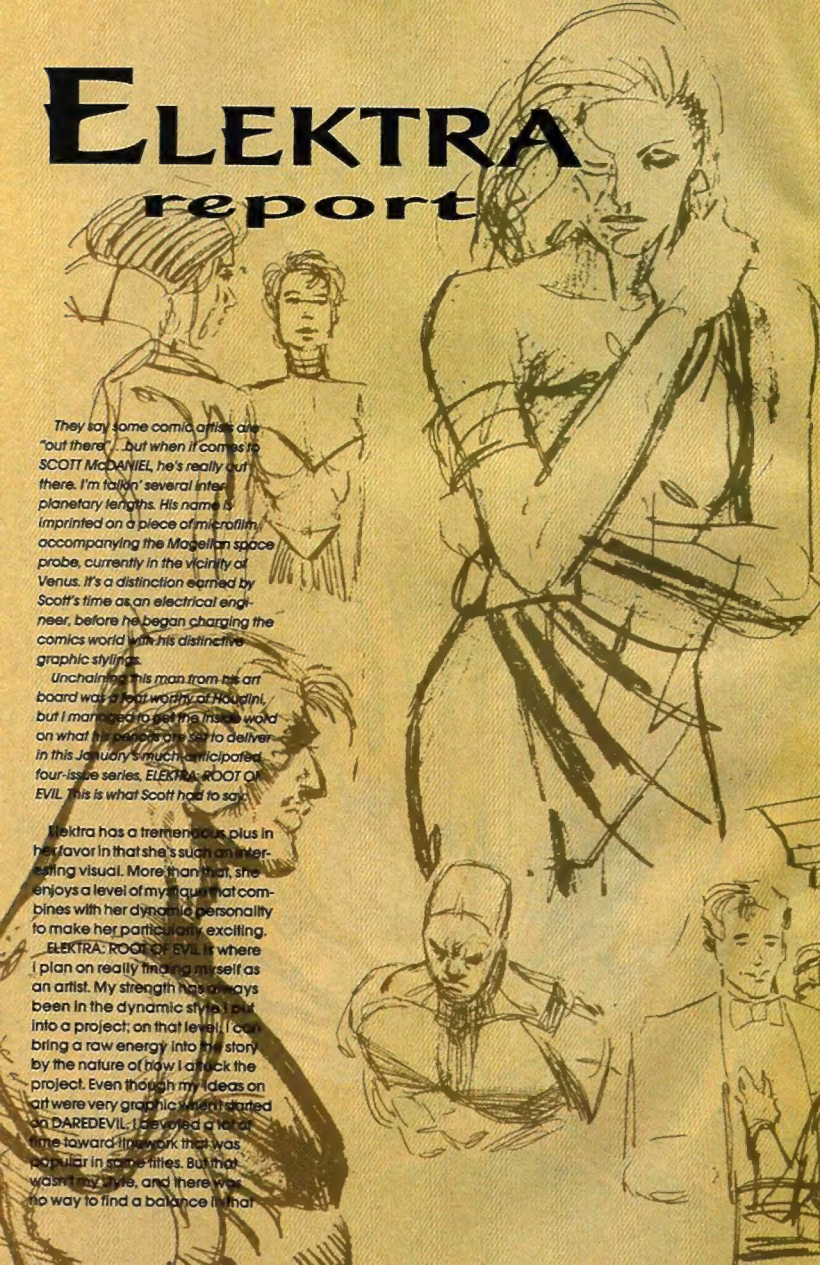
UNBELIEVABLE. THE BULLET'S IMPACT TO HIS SHOULDER DROVE HIS HEAD INTO THE TOP OF THE PIPE.
OUT COLD. NOW WHAT DO I DO WITH YOU, BUSHWHACKER?
I CAN'T HAVE YOU SPRAYING BULLETS ALL OVER THE PLACE. ALMOST BE A RELIEF IF YOU WERE--
HE IS NOT ALONE.
HE CAN HEAR NO HEART BEAT.
THERE IS NO MOVEMENT.
AND THEN FROM BELOW THE SURFACE--
HARRRGH!

IT'S STRENGTH RIVALS THE LARGEST TIGER.
IT ISN'T PLAYING A GAME.
AND IT'S INTENTION ISN'T WINNING.
IT'S RENDING, GNASHING, TEARING AND DIGESTING.
HARRGGGH!
GET OUT OF HERE NOW! SOMETHING IS COMING--
YOU BROUGHT IT ALL HERE. YOU DEAL WITH IT.
YOU TELL 'IM.
HEY, DEVIL, YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE LEFT ME ALIVE.
NOW YOU'RE GONNA PAY FOR THE SHOULDER

AND THIS TIME...
KLIK KLIK
CHK KUNK
KLIK KUNK
--YOU AIN'T GONNA BE PLAYIN' BULLETS AN' BATONS.
BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA BUDDA
HARGGHHH!
D-d-d-d-areeedevvvviiiii!
DID HE HEAR THE VOICE OR WAS IT HIS IMAGINATION?

WITHIN THE SECONDS THE BEAST WILL BE UPON HIM.
IT COULDN'T BE THE DEVOURER.
IT WAS DESTROYED A SHORT TIME AGO.
HE NEARLY LAUGHS OUT LOUD AS THE WORDS PLAY IN HIS MIND.
THE SHEER NUMBER OF THE DEAD WHO FIND THEMSELVES RESURRECTED THESE DAYS MAKE ANYTHING POSSIBLE.
SNNNNNKK
TWO AGAINST ONE MAY NOT BE FAIR.
NOT VERY CHRISTIAN, BUT THIS IS A CRUSADE, DEVIL.
YEAH, THEY KILLED ANYONE WHO DIDN'T BELIEVE WHAT THEY BELIEVED, JERKWEED.
I HEAR IN THIS TIME THEY OUTGREW THAT CRUD.
I CAME DOWN HERE JUST TA GET SOME PEACE.
NOW THAT YA MESSED IT UP FOR ME, I GOTTA DO SOMETHIN' ABOUT IT.
AN' SPLATTERIN' YOUR MUG ALL OVER THE SEWER IN AN EXPLOSION A' GRAY MATTER'S MY FIRST CHOICE.
AND WE ALL KNOW WHAT THE CHRISTIANS DID THE LAST TIME WE HAD ONE...
TO BE CONTINUED!

ELEKTRA report



They say some comic artists are "out there"... but when it comes to SCOTT McDANIEL, he's really out there. I'm talkin' several interplanetary lengths. His name is imprinted on a piece of microfilm accompanying the Magellan space probe, currently in the vicinity of Venus. It's a distinction earned by Scott's time as an electrical engineer, before he began charging the comics world with his distinctive graphic stylings.

Unchaining this man from his art board was a feat worthy of Houdini, but I managed to get the inside word on what his pencils are set to deliver in this January's much-anticipated four-issue series, ELEKTRA: ROOT OF EVIL. This is what Scott had to say:

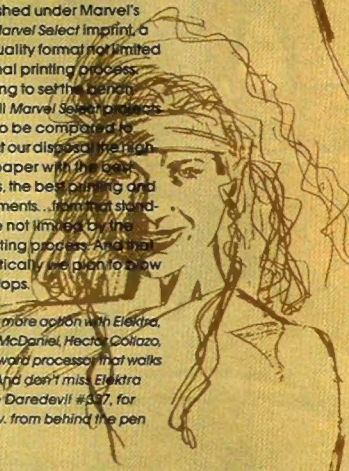
Elektra has a tremendous plus in her favor in that she's such an interesting visual. More than that, she enjoys a level of mystique that combines with her dynamic personality to make her particularly exciting.

ELEKTRA: ROOT OF EVIL is where I plan on really finding myself as an artist. My strength has always been in the dynamic style I put into a project; on that level, I can bring a raw energy into the story by the nature of how I attack the project. Even though my ideas on art were very graphic when I started on DAREDEVIL, I devoted a lot of time toward line work that was popular in some titles. But that wasn't my style, and there was no way to find a balance in that

approach. Then all of a sudden, as certain projects began to make it apparent you didn't need slick linework, I dropped it, 'cause I never needed it to begin with. . .I just thought I did!

With ELEKTRA, I'm looking for a middle ground between high contrast and linework, where a certain balance can be struck that can make the art more full. This series is wide open visually, allowing me to experiment with different styles. I'm taking that opportunity to branch off and do more abstract things. That's going to help me grow as an artist, but it's also going to provide a mental anchor to help the reader associate different moods and scenes with different art styles.

ELEKTRA: ROOT OF EVIL is going to bring a new element of style to the character that's going to provide a definite look to her movements and action that will clearly say, "That's Elektra." More than identifiable, we intend to make her a real icon in the Marvel Universe.

ELEKTRA is attractive on many levels, first off in the fact that the year of blood, sweat, and tears we've fired into the regular DAREDEVIL title and the revival of Elektra there is coming to a culmination in this new series, and readers can enjoy the fruit of our labors. ELEKTRA is one of the first to be published under Marvel's exclusive *Marvel Select* imprint, a new high quality format not limited by the normal printing process. We're helping to set the benchmark that all *Marvel Select* products are going to be compared to. We've got at our disposal the finest grade paper with the best separations, the best printing and color refinements. . .from that standpoint, we're not limited by the normal printing process. And that means artistically we plan to blow out all the stops.

Next issue: more action with Elektra, courtesy Mr. McDaniel, Hector Collazo, and me, the word processor that walks like a man. And don't miss Elektra Report #3 in Daredevil #337, for Hector's p.o.v. from behind the pen and ink!